



THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

FRED LEAF
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
313 N. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 240-8101

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June 17, 2004

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D. 
Director and Chief Medical Officer

SUBJECT: SUNSHINE CANYON LANDFILL

On May 25, 2004, the Board approved a motion by Supervisor Antonovich, instructing the Department of Health Services, in conjunction with the State Department of Health Services (DHS) and the County Sanitation District to review and analyze State and County authority, worker safety, and landfill regulation on medical waste.

This Department has contacted the State DHS and the County Sanitation District for assistance in reviewing and analyzing the above issues. We also met with Fifth District staff and officials of Browning-Ferris Industries of California, Inc. (BFI), to discuss Sunshine Canyon Landfill's current procedures in medical waste recognition, handling, and final disposition.

Currently, we are waiting for additional information from the State DHS and BFI. Once we receive this information, we will provide you with a final report including recommendations for any appropriate changes in policy.

I will provide you with an update by July 15, 2004. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

TLG:rw
405:013

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
James F. Stahl, Sanitation Districts Chief Engineer